

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The claims in this listing will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A treatment tool configured to be inserted into a human body through an endoscope, comprising:

an elongated inserting portion configured to be inserted through an accessory channel of the endoscope;

a supporting member attached to a distal end of said inserting portion, said supporting member being provided with a slit;

a shaft attached to said supporting member so as to cross said slit in a width direction thereof;

a pair of manipulation members, at least one of said pair of manipulation members being pivotably supported for movement by said shaft within said slit so as to open and close with respect to another of said pair of manipulation members, said pair of manipulation members comprising a pair of electrodes connectable to a high frequency power supply, said manipulation members being movable between opened and closed positions via leads connected to said high frequency power supply, ~~one of the leads being connected to a positive terminal of said high frequency power supply and the other of the leads being connected to a negative terminal of said high frequency power supply;~~ and

a spacer located between said pair of manipulation members, said spacer insulating said electrodes from each other, and remaining stationary with respect to said supporting member during movement of the manipulation member,

wherein said shaft is supported by said spacer so as not to come off from said supporting member.

2. (Original) The treatment tool according to claim 1, wherein said shaft is pressed into said spacer.

3. (Original) The treatment tool according to claim 2, wherein said spacer is provided with a through hole having an inner diameter smaller than an outer diameter of said shaft, said shaft being pressed into said through hole.

4. (Previously Presented) The treatment tool according to claim 1, comprising a pair of said shafts, both of said shafts being pressed into said spacer, each of said pair of manipulation members being pivotably mounted to respective one of said shafts so as to open and close.

5. (Original) The treatment tool according to claim 4, wherein said spacer is provided with a pair of through holes formed in parallel to each other, each of said through holes having an inner diameter smaller than an outer diameter of each of said shafts, said shafts being pressed into respective one of said through holes.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously Presented) The treatment tool according to claim 1, wherein said spacer comprises poly-tetra-fluoro-ethylene.

8. (Previously Presented) The treatment tool according to claim 1, wherein said spacer comprises ceramic.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously Presented) The treatment tool according to claim 1, wherein said supporting member comprises insulating material.

11. (Previously Presented) The treatment tool according to claim 10, wherein said supporting member comprises rigid plastic.

12. (Previously Presented) The treatment tool according to claim 10, wherein said supporting member comprises ceramics.

13. (Previously Presented) The treatment tool according to claim 1, wherein said shaft engages said supporting member, said spacer and one of said manipulation members.

14. (Previously Presented) The treatment tool according to claim 1, wherein said pair of manipulation members are configured to rotate about said shaft.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Previously Presented) The treatment tool according to claim 1, further comprising a second shaft, each of said shafts engaging one of said manipulation members and said spacer.

17. (Previously Presented) The treatment tool according to claim 16, each said shaft further engaging said supporting member at each side of said slit.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) A treatment tool configured to be inserted into a human body through an endoscope, said treatment tool comprising:

an elongated insertion portion configured to be inserted through an accessory channel of the endoscope;

a supporting member attached to a distal end of said inserting portion, said supporting member having a longitudinally extending slit;

a shaft attached to said supporting member so as to extend across said slit in a width-wise direction;

a manipulation member, pivotally supported by said shaft so as to pivot about said shaft between opened and closed positions with respect to another manipulation member;

a spacer ~~fixedly positioned~~ that remains stationary with respect to said support member ~~within said slit during pivoting of said manipulation member~~, said spacer located between said manipulation member and said another manipulation member and supporting said shaft; and

power conductors connected to each said manipulation member and said another manipulation member, said power conductors configured to supply power to said electrodes and to pivotally move said manipulation member and said another manipulation member, ~~one of the power conductors being connected to a positive terminal of a power supply and the other of the power conductors being connected to a negative terminal of the power supply.~~

20. (Previously Presented) The treatment tool according to claim 19, said manipulation member and said another manipulation member comprising conductive electrodes.

21-23. (Canceled)

24. (Previously Presented) The treatment tool according to claim 1, said spacer being configured to have a width corresponding to a width of said slit.

25. (Previously Presented) The treatment tool according to claim 19, said spacer being configured to have a width corresponding to a width of said slit.

26. (New) The treatment tool according to claim 1, one of the leads being connected to a positive terminal of said high frequency power supply and the other of the leads being connected to a negative terminal of said high frequency power supply.

27. (New) The treatment tool according to claim 19, one of the power conductors being connected to a positive terminal of a power supply and the other of the power conductors being connected to a negative terminal of the power supply.

P23559.A11

28. (New) The treatment tool according to claim 1, said at least one of said pair of manipulation members being movable between the open and closed positions by pivotal motion about said shaft.